

# CONTROLLER JOHN CHIANG

## STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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## **Chiang Votes to Back Federal Ocean Protections**

SACRAMENTO – The California Ocean Protection Council (OPC) last week voted to support the comprehensive federal policies on ocean preservation found in HR21, the federal Ocean Protection Act. State Controller and OPC member John Chiang, a strong advocate of the measure, successfully sponsored a resolution in support of the bill at the State Lands Commission last month.

“California is a world leader when it comes to the environment because we act to protect our precious natural resources and find cleaner ways to do business. We cannot afford to let our coastal waters suffer on our watch,” said Chiang.

California adopted its own Ocean Protection Act in 2004. The act created the Ocean Protection Council, and gave that body the responsibility of coordinating state agencies’ ocean protection efforts.

“A national standard would help unify the efforts of California, the federal government, and coastal states to manage and protect our ocean ecosystems.”

The bill is largely based on recommendations found in the Pew Oceans Commission and the United States Commission on Ocean Policy studies that offered grim outlooks for ocean ecosystems in the 21st century.

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